Dear Jim, IMPORTANT*READ IMMEDIATELY 7/7/76

We have two decisions to make soon. One is whether to tell Bud what I'll noe encapsulate. I'll be informing you more fully.

NBC is negotiating with the Rays for a Jimmy appearance for $10,000 plus $500 a minute. It is possible the $10,000 is for say 15 minutes and then the extra for footage over that used.

CBS is meeting the competition by other means. I don't know of any CBS money consideration. But one of the reasons Ray fired Bud is because they told him through Jerry that Bud is a CIA ~~gxx~~ agent.

As of 7/1 Rather had been in touch with Jerry twice in the preceeding week.

Jerry favors CBS.

CBS is not alone in feeding this line to Jimmy through Jerry. It is the reason Jimmy fired Bud equivocally in what was it, 1973? Jerry says it was a big mistake on Jimmy's part. He things Bud sweet-talked Jimmy into it.

My only problem with Bud on this is that he goes off half-cocked and can't keep his mouth shut.

Oh, yes, it is one of the reasons they would not level with us. Explicit.

Back to Bud: I feel he should know. I would want an absolute assurance that he then does nothing without you and I also agreeing. I am not saying I would oppose his attempt to do anything. I am saying there has to be this reservation.

Another decision is do we let them go ahead? Which better serves the interest of justice, Jimmy's interest?

There are two other lawyers. One is of the original law firm who in 1973 was undermining Bud, the one Jimmy says is dead. This remaining one of that firm and one described as nationally famous, as well known as Belli or Bailey. The first one refused to have anything to do with the case in 1973 because of Bud's politics. Bud knows him or knows him by name. I do not.

The representation of this new stuff withheld from us is that it will bring the Supreme Court to its knees.

Hastily,